

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A device for adjusting the angle of a component, comprising:
  - a first locking toothing, the first locking toothing being a peripheral internal toothing;
  - a control device being externally toothed and arranged such that the control device interacts with the first locking toothing to rotationally fix the control device relative to the first locking toothing;
  - a rocking lever, the rocking lever being able to be set in a stable locking position and in a stable release position; and
  - a control element acting on a spring in at least one angular position of the component.
2. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the spring can be set into two stable positions for setting the locking position and the release position of the rocking lever.
3. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~further comprising: a control device, the control device bringing about a direction of rotation dependent lockability of the component as a function of the angular position of the component~~ wherein the control device allows the component to be rotated in a first direction and to be locked in an opposite second direction.
4. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the first locking toothing is an internal toothing and~~ the rocking lever has a second locking toothing forming an external toothing.
5. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein the first locking toothing is a peripheral internal toothing, and the control device is externally toothed~~

~~and arranged such that it interacts with the first locking tothing~~ 4, wherein the second locking tothing interacts with the first locking tothing.

6. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the component is an armrest.

7. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the component is an armrest for a vehicle seat.

8. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the spring is a snap-action spring.

9. (Currently Amended) A locking mechanism for an armrest, comprising:  
a first component having a plurality of external teeth and a range of rotation,  
the first component being configured to rotate through ~~[[a]]~~ the range of rotation relative to a  
second component having a set of internal teeth; ~~[[and]]~~

a first spring mounted on the first component and configured to selectively  
bias the external teeth toward the internal teeth; and

a control device having a locking tothing which interacts with the set of  
internal teeth to rotationally fix the control device relative to the second component, the  
control device limiting the range of rotation of the first component and preventing  
engagement of the internal teeth and the external teeth through at least a portion of the range  
of rotation so that the first component may rotate freely with respect to the second  
component;

wherein the first component is releasably lockable in at least two positions  
wherein the external teeth at least partially engage the internal teeth; and

wherein the first component is freely rotatable through at least a portion of the  
range of rotation.

10. (Previously Presented) The locking mechanism of claim 9, wherein the first component further comprises:

a rocking lever rotatably coupled to a rotational element, wherein the external teeth are located on the rocking lever, and the spring selectively biases the external teeth via the rocking lever.

11. (Currently Amended) The locking mechanism of claim 9, ~~further comprising a control device, the control device limiting the range of rotation of the first component~~ 10, wherein the rotational element is configured to be rotationally fixed relative to the armrest.

12. (Currently Amended) The locking mechanism of claim ~~11~~, ~~wherein the control device is fixed relative to the second component~~ 10, wherein the control device includes a first control element that engages the rocking lever to assist in preventing engagement of the internal teeth and the external teeth through at least a portion of the range of rotation.

13. (Currently Amended) The locking mechanism of claim ~~11~~, ~~wherein the control device prevents engagement of the internal teeth and the external teeth through at least a portion of the range of rotation such that the first component may rotate freely with respect to the second component~~ 12, wherein the control device includes a second control element that provides a stop to limit the range of rotation of the first component.

14. (Currently Amended) The locking mechanism of claim ~~[[11]]~~ 9, wherein the control device includes a first surface and a recess, the range of rotation of the first component being defined by the angular displacement of the first surface from the recess.

15. (Currently Amended) The locking mechanism of claim 14, wherein the recess includes a second spring member to releasably lock the first component.

16. (Currently Amended) The locking mechanism of claim 9, wherein the first spring is a snap-action spring.

17. (Currently Amended) The locking mechanism of claim 9, wherein the first spring has at least a first stable position and a second stable position, and wherein the first

spring is moved from the first stable position to the second stable position by engaging a projection on the control device.

18. (Currently Amended) The locking mechanism of claim 17, wherein the first spring biases the external teeth toward the internal teeth when the first spring is in the second position.

19-20. (Canceled)

21. (New) A device for adjusting the angle of an armrest that is rotatable in a first direction and an opposite second direction, the device comprising:

a first locking tothing;

a rocking lever having a second locking tothing which interacts with the first locking tothing, the rocking lever being movable between a stable locking position and a stable release position; and

a spring interacting with the rocking lever and configured to set the rocking lever in both the stable locking position and the stable release position, the spring being configured to set the rocking lever in the stable locking position when the armrest is in a first angular position and to set the rocking lever in the stable release position when the armrest is in a second angular position,

wherein when the rocking lever is in the stable locking position, the armrest is configured to be rotatable in the first direction and to be locked with respect to movement in the second direction.

22. (New) The device of claim 21, wherein the rocking lever comprises a second locking tothing, the second locking tothing being an external tothing which interacts with the first locking tothing.